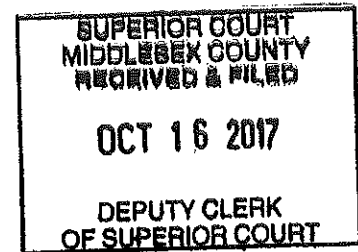


# Exhibit A



Mr. Morris Jackmon  
#256592-526665B  
East Jersey State Prison  
Lock Bag R  
Rahway, NJ 07065

Plaintiff, Pro se

MORRIS JACKMON, :

Plaintiff, :

-vs- :

N.J. DEPARTMENT OF :  
CORRECTIONS,

Defendant. :

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY  
LAW DIVISION-CIVIL  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY

DOCKET NO. MID-L-6156-17

COMPLAINT WITH JURY DEMAND

Morris Jackmon, of full age, residing at East Jersey State Prison, Lock Bag R, Rahway, NJ, 07065, by way of complaint, says:

**PRELIMINARY STATEMENT**

1. This is a civil rights complaint brought by a New Jersey prisoner, pursuant to the Religious Land Use And Institutionalized Persons Act (hereinafter "RLUIPA") of 2000, 42 U.S.C.A. § 2000cc-1, alleging that the defendant promulgated regulations that imposes a "substantial burden" on his religious exercise as a sincere member of the Nation of Gods And Earths, and that the offensive regulation is not in furtherance of a compelling governmental interest, nor is it the least

restrictive means of furthering any imagined compelling governmental interest.

### **JURISDICTION**

2. This court has jurisdiction over the plaintiff's claims seeking injunctive relief pursuant to N.J Const., art. VI, § 3, ¶ 2 and R. 4:3-2(a)(2).

### **PARTIES**

3. The plaintiff is an inmate confined at the East Jersey State Prison in Rahway, NJ 07065, and is a sincere adherent to the teachings of the Nation of Gods & Earths (hereinafter "the Nation").

4. The defendant is the Department of Corrections (hereinafter "the Department" or "the D.O.C."), an agency of the State of New Jersey.

### **FIRST COUNT**

5. As a member of the Nation, adherents are required and compelled to practice certain religious activities, including:

- (a) teaching others about the knowledge of who God is,
- (b) study the Supreme Mathematics, Supreme Alphabets, 120 Degrees, Universal Flag, monthly National Statements, and "The Five Percenter" newspaper periodicals,
- (c) observe holy days, which include the anniversaries of the birth and death of our founder, Clarence 13X Smith, also known as Father Allah, and the birthdays of Elijah Muhammad and Fard Muhammad,
- (d) conduct Civilization Classes, in which senior members educate newer members about the lessons and how they can be applied, and
- (e) gather monthly for "Parliaments" and "Rallies", during which members make

collective decisions and help one another learn their lessons.

These recited activities are compelled by, and central to, the Nation's system of religious beliefs.

6. Pursuant to the Department's February 27, 1998, policy statement for managing members of a Security Threat Group (hereinafter "STG"), "Security Threat Group Activities" are defined as activities or actions of an inmate which relate either directly or indirectly to goals of an STG. These activities include but are not limited to: Possession of STG literature such as, lessons, membership lists, manuals and artwork; Possession of STG paraphernalia such as, beads, artwork, medallions and clothing articles; Observation by staff of known STG hand-signs and/or signals; Participation in STG related assaults, disturbances, meetings, gatherings, incidents and events; Sending or receiving STG related correspondence; Recruiting of other inmates to join an STG.

7. The policy document further states that there is a "Zero Tolerance" level for STG activity within the Department's correctional facilities. Accordingly, "[a]ny signs of [STG] activity shall be immediately dealt with, using the inmate disciplinary process. Disciplinary action shall result in every instance of an inmate's involvement in an activity related to [an STG]."

8. A March 4, 1998 notice to the inmate population listed the STG designations, including that of the Nation of Gods & Earths, and set forth the prohibition on STG activities.

9. Under the Department's regulations on inmate discipline, N.J.A.C. 10A:4-4.1, "[a]sterisk offenses" are prohibited acts considered to be the most serious violations, resulting in the most severe sanctions. N.J.A.C. 10A:4-4.1 lists offense "\*.010" as "participating in an activity(ies) related to [an STG]" and lists offense "\*.011" as "possession or exhibition of anything related to [an STG]."

**FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

10. The D.O.C.'s designation of the Nation as an STG and blanket ban on Nation literature and activities totally prevents plaintiff and other members of the Nation from exercising their religious beliefs, and imposes a substantial burden on their religious exercise.

11. The recited religious activities banned by D.O.C. policy and described more fully in paragraph 5, above, are compelled by, and central to, the Nation's system of religious beliefs.

12. The D.O.C.'s designation of the Nation as an STG and blanket ban on all Nation literature and activities substantially burdens the estimated 900 members of the Nation in D.O.C. custody (inclusive of plaintiff), and violates the

Religious Land Use And Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000, 42  
U.S.C.A. § 2000cc-1.

13. The D.O.C.'s designation of the Nation as an STG and blanket ban on Nation literature and activities proximately caused the plaintiff's injuries.

**DEMAND FOR RELIEF**

14. WHEREFORE, plaintiff demands injunctive relief requiring the defendant to remove the Nation from designation as an STG and to permit plaintiff and other Nation members to practice, without impunity, the religious activities described more fully in paragraph 5, above, which are compelled by, and central to, the Nation's system of religious beliefs.

**NOTICE OF OTHER ACTIONS AND PERSONS SUBJECT TO JOINDER**

Pursuant to R. 4:5-1(b)(2), the undersigned hereby certifies that the matter in controversy is not the subject of any other action pending in any court or of a pending arbitration proceeding, and that no other action or arbitration proceeding is contemplated. He further certifies that all member of the Nation of Gods & Earths incarcerated within the New Jersey Department of Corrections should be joined in the action pursuant to R. 4:28 and are subject to joinder pursuant to R. 4:29-1(b) because of potential claims of these Nation members on the basis of the same transactional facts.

**CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH RULE 1:38-7(c)**

I certify that confidential personal identifiers have been redacted from documents now submitted to the court, and will be redacted from all documents submitted in the future in accordance with R. 1:38-7(b).

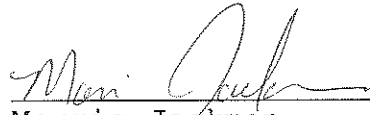
**DESIGNATION OF TRIAL COUNSEL**

The designation of trial counsel will be provided in a writing filed no later than ten days after the expiration of the discovery period, pursuant to R. 4:25-4.


**CERTIFICATION IN LIEU OF OATH**

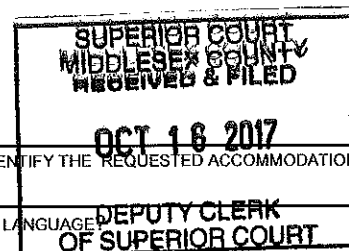
I certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

Dated: 8 / 7 / 2017

  
Morris Jackmon  
Plaintiff, Pro se

**Appendix XII-B1**

	<b>CIVIL CASE INFORMATION STATEMENT</b> <b>(CIS)</b> Use for initial Law Division Civil Part pleadings (not motions) under <i>Rule 4:5-1</i> <b>Pleading will be rejected for filing, under <i>Rule 1:5-6(c)</i>,          if information above the black bar is not completed          or attorney's signature is not affixed</b>		<b>FOR USE BY CLERK'S OFFICE ONLY</b>	
			PAYMENT TYPE: <input type="checkbox"/> CK <input type="checkbox"/> CG <input type="checkbox"/> CA	
			CHG/CK NO.	
			AMOUNT:	
			OVERPAYMENT:	
				BATCH NUMBER:
1. ATTORNEY/PRO SE NAME Morris Jackmon		2. TELEPHONE NUMBER NA		3. COUNTY OF VENUE Middlesex
4. FIRM NAME (if applicable) Pro Se			5. DOCKET NUMBER (when available) MID-L-6156-17	
6. OFFICE ADDRESS East Jersey Staste Prison, Lock Bag R, Rahway, NJ 07065			7. DOCUMENT TYPE Complaint	
			8. JURY DEMAND <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
9. NAME OF PARTY (e.g., John Doe, Plaintiff) Morris Jackmon, Plaintiff		10. CAPTION MORRIS JACKMON -vs- N.J. DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS		
11. CASE TYPE NUMBER (See reverse side for listing) 005	12. HURRICANE SANDY RELATED? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	13. IS THIS A PROFESSIONAL MALPRACTICE CASE? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO IF YOU HAVE CHECKED "YES," SEE N.J.S.A. 2A:53 A -27 AND APPLICABLE CASE LAW REGARDING YOUR OBLIGATION TO FILE AN AFFIDAVIT OF MERIT.		
14. RELATED CASES PENDING? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO		15. IF YES, LIST DOCKET NUMBERS NA		
16. DO YOU ANTICIPATE ADDING ANY PARTIES (arising out of same transaction or occurrence)? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO		17. NAME OF DEFENDANT'S PRIMARY INSURANCE COMPANY (if known) <input type="checkbox"/> NONE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN		
<b>THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ON THIS FORM CANNOT BE INTRODUCED INTO EVIDENCE.</b>				
CASE CHARACTERISTICS FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING IF CASE IS APPROPRIATE FOR MEDIATION				
18. DO PARTIES HAVE A CURRENT, PAST OR RECURRENT RELATIONSHIP? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO		IF YES, IS THAT RELATIONSHIP: <input type="checkbox"/> EMPLOYER/EMPLOYEE <input type="checkbox"/> FRIEND/NEIGHBOR <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (explain) <input type="checkbox"/> FAMILIAL <input type="checkbox"/> BUSINESS		
19. DOES THE STATUTE GOVERNING THIS CASE PROVIDE FOR PAYMENT OF FEES BY THE LOSING PARTY? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO				
20. USE THIS SPACE TO ALERT THE COURT TO ANY SPECIAL CASE CHARACTERISTICS THAT MAY WARRANT INDIVIDUAL MANAGEMENT OR ACCELERATED DISPOSITION NA				
21. Do you or your client need any disability accommodations? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO		IF YES, PLEASE IDENTIFY THE REQUESTED ACCOMMODATION NA		
22. Will an interpreter be needed? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO		IF YES, FOR WHAT LANGUAGE NA		
23. I certify that confidential personal identifiers have been redacted from documents now submitted to the court, and will be redacted from all documents submitted in the future in accordance with <i>Rule 1:38-7(b)</i> .				
24. ATTORNEY SIGNATURE: <i>Mon: Jackmon</i>				





MIDDLESEX VICINAGE CIVIL DIVISION  
P O BOX 2633  
56 PATERSON STREET  
NEW BRUNSWICK NJ 08903-2633

TRACK ASSIGNMENT NOTICE

COURT TELEPHONE NO. (732) 645-4300  
COURT HOURS 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

DATE: OCTOBER 17, 2017  
RE: JACKMON MORRIS VS NJ DEPT OF CORRECTIONS  
DOCKET: MID L -006156 17

THE ABOVE CASE HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO: TRACK 3.

DISCOVERY IS 450 DAYS AND RUNS FROM THE FIRST ANSWER OR 90 DAYS  
FROM SERVICE ON THE FIRST DEFENDANT, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST.

THE PRETRIAL JUDGE ASSIGNED IS: HON PHILLIP L. PALEY

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT TEAM 002  
AT: (732) 519-3737 EXT 3737.

IF YOU BELIEVE THAT THE TRACK IS INAPPROPRIATE YOU MUST FILE A  
CERTIFICATION OF GOOD CAUSE WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE FILING OF YOUR PLEADING.  
PLAINTIFF MUST SERVE COPIES OF THIS FORM ON ALL OTHER PARTIES IN ACCORDANCE  
WITH R.4:5A-2.

ATTENTION:

JACKMON MORRIS  
#256592-526665B  
EAST JERSEY STATAE PRISON LOCK BAG R  
RAHWAY NJ 07065

JUMLEE2